

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for killing organisms and removing of toxic substances from an enclosure, which comprises the steps of:

providing at least one ingress duct communicating with said interior of said enclosure;

heating an environmentally acceptable gas to a temperature lethal to predetermined organisms;

directing said heated gas into said enclosure through said at least one ingress duct for a time sufficient to raise the temperature of said enclosure to said lethal temperature; and

extracting said heated gas and dead organisms suspended therein from said enclosure by venting and filtering said heated gas during at least a substantial portion of said directing step.

19. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said extracting step further includes passing said heated gas ~~through at least one egress duct to extract said heated gas~~ through a HEPA filter.

20. (Currently amended) A method for sanitizing an enclosed structure having an exterior and an interior, comprising the steps of:

disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes ~~at predetermined locations~~ within said enclosed structure;

heating a gas;

directing said heated gas within said enclosed structure so as to maintain a flow of said heated gas within said enclosed structure;

monitoring the temperature within said enclosure using said probes during at least a substantial portion of said directing step, to determine when ~~all portions of~~ said enclosed structure ~~reach~~ reaches a sufficiently high temperature for sanitizing said enclosed structure; and

~~venting~~ filtering said heated gas from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said directing step, ~~thereby extracting heat-killed organisms suspended in said heated gas.~~

21. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said sufficiently high temperature is at least about 120°F.

22. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, ~~further comprising connecting said temperature-indicating probes to a console disposed outside said enclosed structure~~ wherein said filtering step further comprises passing said heated gas through a HEPA filter.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said ~~directing step further comprises killing certain organisms within said enclosed structure by heating to said sufficiently high temperature, said certain organisms including at least one of fungi; toxic molds, including aspergillus oryzae, aspergillus terreus, aspergillus versicolor, cladosporium hergbarum, stachybotrys chartarum, penicillium aurantiogriseum, penicillium chrisogenum, penicillium glabrum, and fusarium oxysporum; bacteria; and insects~~ filtering step further comprises drawing said heated gas through a filter.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A method for exterminating toxic organisms in a structure, said toxic organisms comprising at least one of fungi; toxic molds, and bacteria, said method comprising the steps of:

heating a gas;

directing said heated gas in an interior portion of an enclosed structure so as to heat at least said interior portion to a ~~predetermined~~ temperature that is hot enough to kill said toxic organisms;

~~monitoring an interior temperature of said enclosed structure to determine when substantially all portions of said interior reach said predetermined temperature;~~

~~maintaining~~ an interior of said enclosed structure at not less than said predetermined temperature for a period of time; and

~~venting~~ filtering said heated gas from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said maintaining step, ~~to extract killed organisms from said interior portion~~ using a filter operable to capture said toxic organisms.

27. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said ~~predetermined~~ temperature is at least about 120°F.

28. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, further comprising disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes to monitor temperature at different locations within said enclosed structure.

29. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, further comprising connecting said temperature-indicating probes to a console disposed outside said enclosed structure.

30. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said ~~toxic organisms further comprise aspergillus oryzae, aspergillus terreus, aspergillus versicolor, cladosporium herbarum, stachybotrys chartarum, penicillium aurantiogriseum, penicillium chrisogenum, penicillium glabrum, and fusarium oxysporum~~ filtering step further comprises passing said heated gas through said filter, said filter comprising a HEPA filter.

31-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the ~~venting step comprises passing said heated gas through a ventilation duct~~ said filtering step further comprises drawing said heated gas through the filter using a downstream blower.

37. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~Claim 36~~ Claim 26, further comprising ~~filtering said heated gas to extract killed organisms suspended therein, using a filter in fluid communication with said ventilation duct~~ wherein said filtering step further comprises removing said heated gas from said interior portion of said structure during at least a portion of said filtering step.

~~37~~ 38. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising returning filtered gas to said interior portion after said filtering step.

~~38~~ 39. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim 36~~ Claim 26, further comprising applying a suction downstream of said filter.

~~39~~ 40. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said heating step is performed outside said enclosed structure.

~~40~~ 41. (Cancelled)

~~41~~ 42. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said directing step further comprises directing said heated gas into said interior portion using at least one duct.

~~42~~ 43. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, wherein said maintaining step further comprises maintaining said ~~predetermined~~ temperature for not less than about one hour.